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ment that is due largely to the author's failure to distinguish between a panic and a crisis or, apparently, to realize that there is a substantial difference between the two. The decline of 1903 was unquestionably influenced very strongly by the tremendous strain to which credit was subjected in the latter part of 1902 and early 1903, and which had been produced by the financial operations of the four years immediately preceding.

Instances of this sort could be multiplied if space permitted, for the writer has failed to familiarize himself with, what may be called "fundamental conditions." While the volume is interesting, it is unscientific in character, and as a solution of industrial depressions utterly fails of its purpose.

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**Jenks, J. W., and Lauck, W. Jett.** *The Immigration Problem.* Pp. xvi, 496. Price, \$1.75. New York: Funk & Wagnalls Company, 1912.

For those who have need of a careful digest of the most important findings of the immigration commission, this book will serve excellently. Both authors had a personal part in the work of the commission, Professor Jenks as a member of the commission and Professor Lauck as the expert in charge of the industrial investigation. Consequently, they speak with authority. To criticise the content of the book is practically to criticise the work of the commission, for the findings of that body are accepted with an almost naive confidence, even in matters about which there is serious difference of opinion, and phases of the subject not covered in the report are virtually untouched in this volume. Unfortunately, however, the authors have allowed themselves to be led into making a number of sweeping generalizations, which, while perhaps true, are not supported by any evidence given in the book, and are not justified in a work which professedly relies almost solely on the report of a government commission, and in which practically no critical references to other authorities or sources of information appear. The casual reader is in danger of accepting these too unhesitatingly, because of the authority which the book naturally carries with it. Many of these have to do with the ease of assimilation, such as the statements on pages 198, 209, and particularly on page 267, where the results of Professor Boas' studies are accepted unquestioningly, and a far-reaching deduction based thereupon. Only two other instances may be mentioned here; the conclusion as to the total effect of the transient character of modern immigration, on page 185, and the counsel given on page 197 to pay little attention to the social and political aspects of immigration.

As a literary production, the book leaves much to be desired. The English is rough and in many cases so bad as to suggest undue haste in either composition or proofreading. Occasionally there are ambiguities or omissions which confuse or distort the meaning. Thus the term "native white Americans" is used loosely; on page 154 "adult wage-earners" should be

"adult male wage-earners"; on page 178 nothing is told us of the rank which Italians hold in the preference of the southern contractor, although the Italians are said to be the most numerous workers; and on page 216 the "total of 6,800" might refer either to domestic servants or the Chinese race.

This enumeration of faults, however, must not be allowed to obscure the merits of the book, which are many. It contains a large amount of data, for the most part conveniently arranged and reliable, and if used with discretion should be of great value to all students of social subjects.

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**Lowell, Percival.** *The Soul of the Far East.* Pp. x, 266. Price, \$1.60. New York: Macmillan Company, 1911.

**Hart, Albert Bushnell.** *The Obvious Orient.* Pp. x, 369. Price, \$1.50. New York: D. Appleton & Co., 1911.

The unlikeness between the Far-Oriental and the Western mind can hardly seem greater than that another dissimilarity, also exhibited by Mr. Lowell—the mental unlikeness of the physical scientist to the specialist of economic or political science in his method of dealing with social questions. The man of mathematical habit tends to regard social concepts as being more precise than they really are, and to reason from them with a confidence in his abstractions better suited to the simplicity of astronomical investigation. This habit of simplifying what is really complex is frequently noticeable in the discussion of current political questions, by mathematicians and physicists.

The "Soul of the Far East" is said to be characterized by "impersonality." "Individuality, personality, the sense of self are only three different aspects of the same thing." This characteristic is indicated by an extreme of filial piety—the subordination of the individual to his parent—a neglect to observe the individual's birthday (New Year's Day serving as a general birthday), and courtesy, which is a sort of belittling of oneself. In language, impersonality is shown by the lack of gender ("indifference to woman is but included in a much more general indifference to mankind") by the placing of nouns before verbs, as nouns denote facts, while verbs express action, and action as considered in human speech is mostly of human origin. This constitutes "a precedence accorded the impersonal element in the language over the personal." In religion, Buddhism is the *cri du coeur* of pessimism. This personality, this sense of self is a cruel description and a snare. "The mythological creations of the Oriental are feared, not loved. His ideal world remains as utterly impersonal as if it had never been born." The lack, among Oriental peoples, of individuality and imagination, which is to mental life "what variation is to material organization," has arrested these developments. Like the moon, "their vital fire had spent itself more than a millenium ago." The Japanese only copy; the Chinese will not even do that.

This characterization is not without elements of interest, but its main thesis fails to convince. "Impersonality" has not the definite significance, for